

**A new record of *Morchella* taxon for the
Turkish macromycota**

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Abstract

This study is based on the macrofungi specimens collected from Muğla province between the years 2000 and 2001. The morphological and ecological characteristics of the macrofungi have been recorded and they were photographed in their natural habitats. As a result of laboratory and field studies, *Morchella umbrina* f. *macroalveola* Jct. identified among these specimens has been recorded for the first time in Turkey.

Key Words : *Morchella*, Turkish macromycota

Türkiye makromikotasi için *Morchella* taksonunun yeni bir kaydı

Özet

Bu çalışma 2000 ve 2001 yılları arasında Muğla ilinden toplanan makrofungus örnekleri üzerinde yapılmıştır. Makrofungusların morfolojik ve ekolojik karakterleri kaydedilmiş ve doğal habitatlarında fotoğrafları çekilmiştir. Laboratuvar ve arazi çalışmaları sonucunda, bu örnekler arasından teşhis edilen *Morchella umbrina* f. *macroalveola* Jct. Türkiye'den ilk kez kaydedilmiştir.

Bulduru Sözcükleri: *Morchella*, Türkiye makromikotasi

Introduction

Morels grow as individually or in groups in spring, from February to May, in sunny places, in pine forests, especially burned areas, sometimes in clearings, often near piled-up barks, on sawdust or wood chippings, also in gardens, lawns and parks. Various species of *Morchella* have been collected, exported and consumed by Turkish people. Especially these mushrooms grow in Aegean, Mediterranean and Marmara regions. Ecological factors in these region are convenient for morels to exist.

The specimens were collected during field trips in Muğla 2000-2001. The morphological and ecological characteristics of the macrofungi were recorded and photographed in their natural habitats. The macrofungi specimens were brought to the laboratory. Their spore prints were taken and spores were photographed through a microscope. Dried specimens were numbered and placed in locked bags. In addition, they were put in deep freeze for a week to protect to internal and external parasite attacks.

The specimens were identified with the help of macroscopic and microscopic features. Also previous literature by Marchand (1), Breitenbach and Kranzlin (2) and Jacquetant (3) have been utilized. All specimens collected have been kept into the fungarium of the Muğla University.

Many studies on Morels have been done in Turkey (4-6). All article on macrofungi have been examined, *Morchella umbrina* f. *macroalveola* Jct. have been determined as a new record.

Taxonomic description

***Morchella umbrina* f. *macroalveola* Jct.**, Figure 1.

Cap 30-40 mm, oval to subovat shaped, velvety, longitudinal ribs black but turning brownish grey with age. Alveolate are frequent and irregular, light brown. **Stalk** 40-50 mm, cylindric shaped, surface white to ochre, longitudinally wrinkled and hollow. The margin of cap passes directly into the stalk a sharp bend. **Flesh** white and tough. **Spores** 20-22 x 12-13 μ , elliptical, smooth. **Asci** eight spored; **paraphyses** cylindrical and with septa. **Habitat**, under *Pinus brutia*. **Distribution** Muğla, Yaraş village, in pine forest, 24.04.2001, *M.H. Solak* 16.



Figure 1. *Morchella umbrina* macroalveolata.

a. Fruiting body (life size) b. Spores (x 400)

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ISSN 1300-2953

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2005

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